REMARKS

By this Amendment, claims 1 and 7 are amended to at least correct minor grammatical errors. Reconsideration and allowance of the subject application in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The rejection of claims 1-11 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Anerousis is respectfully traversed. A rejection based on 35 U.S.C. §102 requires every element of the claim to be included in the reference, either directly or inherently. Applicants respectfully submit that, as amended, claims 1-11 are allowable over Anerousis.

Claim 7 recites, *inter alia*, a method for statistically processing messages transmitted and received between a Headend, comprising "performing a second set of statistical functions on the retrieved subsets of messages in the file." The Office Action asserts that Anerousis, at page 97, paragraphs 1-3, discloses this feature. Applicants respectfully disagree.

At the cited reference, Anerousis appears to only disclose, wherein the "Marvel" system supports "customer views that combine account information from the user registration database with per-user temporally aggregated performance measurements. Every such object generates a web page that a user can access to view his/her account status together with a time series of their bandwidth usage." (Emphasis added). Applicants respectfully submit that viewing account status together with a time series fails to suggest performing a second set of statistical functions, as recited in claim 7. Applicants respectfully submit, therefore, that Anerousis fails to include every element of claim 7, either directly or inherently. Accordingly, claim 7 is allowable over Anerousis.

Independent claim 1 is amended to include limitations similar to those recited in claim 7. Specifically, claim 1 is amended to recite, "wherein the statistical function handler is further configured to perform a second set of statistical functions on the retrieved subsets of messages in the file."

Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that independent claim 1 is likewise allowable over Anerousis. Claims 2-6 and 8-11 depend from independent claims 1 and 7 and are likewise patentable over Anerousis at least for their dependence on an allowable base claim, as well as for additional features they recite. Withdrawal of the rejection over Anerousis is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-11 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 07-1337 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,
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